

workforce, cooperative government officials, and not the least significant, community leaders committed to bringing new jobs into their towns, cities, and counties. One of the fastest growing areas of the Palmetto State is the region known as the Upstate, and a gentleman by the name of Harry M. "Mac" Johnston, played a key role in business development in Union County, until his recent and untimely death.

Mr. Johnston served as the director of the Union County Development Board for slightly more than 2 years, a short tenure to be certain. Despite the brevity of his administration, cut tragically short by a stroke, Mr. Johnston managed to achieve several important accomplishments that will be of great benefit to his fellow citizens. Thanks to the efforts of the late Mr. Johnston, the historic Buffalo Mill was purchased and re-opened, Union County was named as the home of South Carolina's new Juvenile Justice facility, and Upstate residents will celebrate community spirit this fall at the first ever "Uniquely Union Festival." Without question, these are three excellent examples of Mr. Johnston's abilities as a civic booster and promoter of Union County, and had his life not been ended so abruptly, I am confident that he would have continued to have played an important role in the development of Union County.

Mr. President, the impact Mr. Johnston had in Union County was tremendous. He was a very capable and well liked man, and in memory of the many contributions he made to his community, the County Council recently voted to name the new county industrial park after this man. This is a fitting tribute to a person who dedicated so much of his efforts to making our State a better place to live. I commend the Union County Council on the honor they have paid Mr. Johnston and I extend my deepest condolences to his family on the loss they have suffered.

RETIREMENT OF AMBASSADOR DAVID COLSON

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, I take the floor today to pay tribute to a distinguished civil servant, Ambassador David A. Colson. Ambassador Colson is Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. He will retire from 25 years of Government service on August 2; his departure is a loss to the Department of State and a loss to our country.

Dave Colson's career is an exemplar of public service. In 1966, he graduated from college and joined the Peace Corps, serving for 2 years as a teacher in Liberia. Thereafter, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. Upon completion of his tour of duty in 1971, he returned to law school. In 1975, he began working for the Department of State, the organization which has enjoyed the benefits of his efforts ever since.

Dave progressed rapidly up the career ladder at State. First as Attorney-Adviser, then as Assistant Legal Adviser, and finally as Deputy Assistant Secretary. He received a career appointment to the Senior Civil Service after only six years working in the Legal Advisers office. Since 1991, he has served with the rank of Ambassador.

Mr. President, those are titles and ranks. They are impressive, but they speak little to Dave's accomplishments and service to our country. The true measure of his contributions lies in the body of international law that he leaves behind and the people whose lives are better because of his work. In these areas, his achievements are legion.

At the Foreign Relations Committee, Ambassador Colson is best known for his expertise in the area of living marine resources. In the past three Congresses, he appeared before our Committee to testify on numerous marine resource treaties. Each of these advanced the interests of the United States and its citizens. Each of them improved the conservation of in the world's marine resources. Each of them developed further the framework of international law that governs the use of ocean space. And each of them was brought about either in large or partial measure through Ambassador Colson's efforts.

Dave Colson's accomplishments are not, however, confined to living marine resources. As Deputy Assistant Secretary for the OES Bureau at the State Department, he has been extensively involved in a variety of issues including the Law of the Sea Convention, the London Dumping Convention, a number of maritime boundary negotiations, navigation issues, and a range of matter associated with the Arctic and Antarctic.

Simply put, Dave Colson became one of the leading experts in the world on oceans. He is to be commended for his invaluable and lasting contributions. I wish him all the best as he embarks on this new phase of his life.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, July 31, the Federal debt stood at \$5,188,888,625,925.87.

On a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America owes \$19,550.80 as his or her share of that debt.

MAINTAINING OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH ISRAEL

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to comment on our nation's continued support with its chief ally in the Middle East, Israel. Last week, the Senate completed action on the Fiscal Year 1997 Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill. The final legislation soon will be brought before us. This legislation rep-

resents the annual opportunity for Congress to demonstrate its clear support for the people of Israel.

This year is no exception. Both House and Senate bills would continue last year's investment levels to Israel—\$1.2 billion for economic assistance and \$1.8 billion in military aid. I commend the House and Senate Chairmen of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee—Senator MCCONNELL and Congressman CALLAHAN for their efforts to maintain our full commitment to the people of Israel.

I have been a strong critique of foreign aid excess. However, I firmly believe that one of the wisest investments we can make is to the economic viability and national security of Israel. Failure to maintain that commitment could pose even greater costs in the future—costs in lost jobs, lost opportunities and far worse, even lost lives.

I have been concerned of late with the proliferation of advanced weapons to nations that traditionally have been hostile to Israel's existence. In the past year, Iran has acquired advanced cruise missiles from China, and has engaged in an aggressive campaign to develop a nuclear weapons and ballistic missile program. It also recently was reported that Syria may have obtained advanced ballistic missile technology from China. It is no secret that Syria is seeking to develop a far more capable ballistic missile than the Scud missiles that rained down on Israel during the Gulf War. Given these developments, it is crucial that Israel maintains a technological edge in its defense systems. Our continued support of Israel's defense, therefore, is vital.

Mr. President, as we all know, just a few weeks ago, a joint session of Congress was held in order to hear an address by the newly elected Prime Minister of Israel, Binyamin Netanyahu. We witnessed a stirring speech. Prime Minister Netanyahu deserves our congratulations for articulating a thoughtful vision for the people of his country.

Perhaps most important, the people of Israel deserve our congratulations for demonstrating their commitment to democratic values. For nearly a half century, the people of Israel have built and preserved a democracy despite constant hardship and hostility. The recent elections are proof that the people of Israel are determined to withstand pressures from without and within to maintain a democracy, build a vibrant economy and achieve peace and security in the entire region.

Prime Minister Netanyahu came to Washington as Israel's first popularly elected Prime Minister. Rather than be the choice of a governing coalition, Prime Minister Netanyahu is the people's choice. The people chose him to lead the Israeli government, rather than the government itself.

The Prime Minister's speech to Congress demonstrated his appreciation and understanding of the American-Israeli partnership—a partnership that

goes beyond common political and strategic bonds. Both nations share a common set of values—values of freedom, individual responsibility, and hope and opportunity. The Prime Minister noted that it was no coincidence that the birth of Israel coincided with the rise of the United States as the world's preeminent power. He is right.

I also was particularly heartened with the Prime Minister's assurances that he is committed to establishing real peace in the region. Indeed, he articulated a clear, commonsense vision of how peace can be established. He called this vision the "three pillars of peace." The pillars being security, reciprocity, and democracy and human rights. Americans should understand and appreciate each one of these pillars.

It was Ronald Reagan who popularized the maxim "peace through strength." Actually, as Prime Minister Netanyahu reminded us, that maxim has its origin in Hebrew verse, which when translated, reads as follows: "God will give strength to His people; God will bless His people with peace." We are a nation long blessed with peace because we always made the defense of this nation a high priority. America's combined economic and military power provided the strength needed to secure a peaceful victory in the Cold War. Similarly, we cannot undermine Israel's security in the name of peace. That, in essence, was what the Israeli elections were all about.

Therefore, we should not question Israel's commitment to peace if it demands as a prerequisite an end to terrorist aggression, or state-sponsored attacks against Israeli citizens and cities. We should not second guess Israel's desire to move the peace process forward if it demands as a prerequisite that existing peace agreements be respected by all sides. We should embrace these conditions for they have at their core the values of any true democracy—the values of personal freedom and the rule of law. In essence, that is what Israel is seeking from its neighbors. American know peace cannot exist without respect for individual rights and the rule of law. The people of Israel should expect no less.

I applaud Prime Minister Netanyahu for being unwilling to believe that Israel will remain the Middle East's one lone democracy. There is no reason that the shared traditions of our two countries—human rights, democracy, free speech, religious tolerance—cannot be the growing traditions in any part of the world. Democracy has seen advances in Asia and Africa. The Middle East should not be immune to its benefits, one of them being a lasting peace.

Prime Minister Netanyahu understood and demonstrated to all of us that democracy is the ultimate method to achieve peace. After all, as he correctly pointed out, "modern democracies do not initiate aggression." That being the clear case, and understanding

the values inherent in democracies, there should be no question in the minds of those who seek peace, that the Middle East's lone democracy should be the sole sovereign of the city of Jerusalem. I am pleased that Congress took a stand for one, unified city of Jerusalem by voting to move our Embassy there. Is it no surprise that under a unified democratic system, Jerusalem has witnessed peace and protection to members of all nationalities that have come to worship there? Certainly, it is no surprise to Americans. We know, as Prime Minister Netanyahu said, that a city divided is not a city at peace or tolerant of its diversity.

Mr. President, let me conclude my remarks with the subject I started with—our continued support for Israel. Prime Minister Netanyahu has vowed that he would like to take Israel down the road of less reliance on U.S. economic assistance, and greater reliance on the powerful forces of capitalism and free markets. I commend him for setting his nation on this course of economic independence. This decision demonstrates his confidence with his fellow citizens of Israel to build a vibrant, strong, self-reliant nation. That being the course he has set, the best we in the United States can do is help him and the people of Israel achieve that admirable goal.

As a U.S. Senator, I have watched and admired a brave and determined people build a democracy under brutal circumstances that more than tested their resolve. This past year was no exception. It has been a year that witnessed the assassination of Israel's great leader, Yitzhak Rabin, repeated terrorist attacks, and a very contentious election. Through it all, the people of Israel stood strong, holding to its values and its belief that their home, their country, will stand strong, prosperous and at peace. The people of the United States cannot help but admire that determination. The people of the United States stand ready to help the people of Israel as they move down a road of peace, security and economic self-reliance.

OREGON COAST AQUARIUM

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, for 30 years I have had the pleasure of representing a State known for its emphasis on educating its citizens on the importance of understanding and preserving their surrounding environment. The Oregon Coast Aquarium serves as a wonderful example of this unique spirit of conservation.

Visitors at the Oregon Coast Aquarium are able to experience the indigenous coastal habitat and view many examples of marine creatures and plant life. However, the aquarium is much more than a collection of exhibits, it is an education center. The theme chases a raindrop from the moment it drops from the sky and hits the Coast Range, until it reaches its final destination,

the Pacific Ocean. By following this path through numerous interactive exhibits, theaters, and touch pools, children and adults alike are able to learn about the native Oregon coastal environment and its important function.

Located just south of Newport along the scenic Oregon coastline, the Oregon Coast Aquarium has recently become the rehabilitation center for the 16-year-old orca whale Keiko, known for his role in the movie "Free Willy." The aquarium was selected by the Earth Island Institute, whose job it was to find a suitable new home for the 21-foot-long and 7,000-pound killer whale, as the only facility in the country that satisfied the necessary criteria. Keiko was transported, via a UPS B-130 cargo jet, to the aquarium from an amusement park in Mexico, where his health had been rapidly deteriorating. Since his arrival in January, Keiko has steadily improved and is moving ever closer to the goal of his eventual release.

I am honored today to recognize the Oregon Coast Aquarium and welcome the most recent addition to our coastal waters.

On Sunday, July 28, 1996, the New York Times published a full page article on Keiko and the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of this article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the New York Times, July 28, 1996]

WILLY NOT FREE, BUT MENDING

(By Donald S. Olson)

On Jan. 7 of this year thousands of people lined Highway 101 south of Newport, Ore., to welcome a 7,720-pound, 21-foot-long celebrity from Mexico City. Keiko, the 16-year-old orca whale who starred in the movie "Free Willy," arrived by U.P.S. B-130 cargo jet. He was loaded onto a flatbed truck and hauled past cheering crowds to his new home, the Oregon Coast Aquarium. Several aquariums wanted Keiko, but the Oregon Coast was chosen because it was the only one with the space to build a pool large enough to rehabilitate him for possible release into the wild—the first such attempt ever made with a captive orca.

Since it opened in 1992, the magnificent 37-acre facility, about two and a half hours southwest of Portland, has drawn me back to Newport and the coastal region around Yequina Bay several times. Situated on the bay's south side, adjacent to an estuary teeming with wildlife, the aquarium is designed in the vernacular of seaside buildings such as boat sheds, with imaginative interior detail. The pillars, for instance, are cast with sandy reliefs of marine life, and the doorhandles are octopus tentacles and heron heads cast in bronze.

A sculptured school of 150 thrashing coho salmon hanging in the front entry hall leads to the first exhibit, where a short video introduces the concept behind the aquarium. Following the course of a raindrop that falls in the Coast Range, trickles down streams, flows into rivers, washes through wetlands and finally reaches the sea, the galleries, arranged in a circular pattern, present a cross-section of various coastal habitats linked by water into one vast inter-connected marine ecosystem.